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6 JUN 59

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

SUBJECT: Management of Projects SENTRY and MIDAS

Reference is made to your memorandum of 5 May 1959 captioned "Management of Sentry," and your memorandum of 8 May 1959 captioned "Operational Responsibility with Respect to Midas."

For your information, I have been previously advised by the Director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency that in his best technical judgment the interim MIDAS and SENTRY systems have progressed to that point where early assignments of the operational responsibilities for these systems should be made.

Based upon the opinion of the Director of ARPA, I have, therefore, requested that the Joint Chiefs of Staff provide recommendations to me as to the following points with reference to the above-named systems.

a. The Command to be assigned operating responsibility for the system, along with the estimated time phasing for transfer, based upon operator capability to assume functions.

b. The primary users of the products of the system other than the operating agency, along with proposed arrangements for operator-user relationships.

c. The Agency to be assigned logistical support and normal product improvement responsibility of the system on behalf of the operating element.

Upon receiving the answers to the above questions from the Joint Chiefs of Staff, I will make a determination as to the Agency or Agencies to which the systems will be assigned.

N. H. McElroy

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-341